



Terms of Reference – LWG Auditors

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Specification

The provision of environmental auditing services delivering environmental stewardship audits using the latest LWG approved audit protocol for tanneries in different regions of the world. An objective of the LWG is to create a framework for improvement and therefore the provision of advice, support and guidance is a key part of the audit process.

Key Notes

- Audit providers that wish to offer their services to provide audits must be approved by the Technical Sub-Group / Executive Committee of LWG. Individuals, and not companies, will be approved based upon their suitability. There will only be a limited number of auditors selected.
- All completed audits must be submitted to a peer review process so that the results, calculations, and assumptions can be verified.
 - The peer reviews are conducted by other LWG approved auditors, and all auditors will be required to peer review the same number of audits that they carry out.
 - Auditors will be required to submit their clients full audit results for peer review and facilitation. All results will be treated with the strictest confidentiality.
 - In the event of a dispute the leather manufacturer can appeal to the Technical Sub-Group via the contracted facilitator.
 - Auditors should note that if the leather manufacturer wishes to be listed on the LWG website they will need to submit their results to the LWG contracted facilitator for benchmarking. All results will be held confidentially by the facilitator and no individual data will be published.

Essential Qualifications

1. Educated to degree level or above in chemistry, biology, leather technology or environmental sciences.
2. At least 5-10 years relevant experience in the tanning and finishing process.
3. Third party qualified in environmental auditing techniques by a recognised provider.

Essential Skills & Knowledge

1. The ability to communicate general and technical information effectively through both verbal and written methods.
2. The ability to write structured, concise reports.
3. An understanding of restricted substance implications in tanneries.



4. An understanding of clean technology application and water consumption management in tanneries.
5. A thorough understanding of effluent treatment processes for tanneries.
6. The ability to give coaching and advice to the leather manufacturers on water and energy savings techniques for the sector.

Other Terms

- Auditors must be able to demonstrate that there are no conflicts of interest with tanneries to be audited.
- Auditors will be required to sign a Service Level Agreement and accept a Code of Conduct for LWG Approved Auditors.
- Auditors must complete at least 3 audits within a twelve-month period.
- Auditors must attend monthly auditor calls, and an in-person auditor meeting at least once per year. These will be scheduled to coincide with the main LWG member meetings wherever possible.
- Auditors must attend at least one main LWG member meeting per year.